Vol. XI. Numb. 19.

THE OBSERVATOR.

On the Dutch *Memorial concerning the Barrier Treaty, which is another Rebuke to the Frenchify'd Scribblers. The Hand of God viſible upon* Lous XIVth, *his Kingdom and Faction. Their Obſtinacy, and what is like to be their Fate.*

From Saturday, March 1. to Wedneſday, March 5. 1712.

Countrym. THE Author of *The Conduct of the Allies*, *The Examiner*, and the other Advocates for a Diſhonourable Peace with *France*, and for Quarrelling with our Confederates, receive new Mortifications every day, Maſter: Among others, there's the *Dutch* Memorial about the Barrier Treaty, againſt which thoſe Scribblers have rais'd ſuch a Clamour, that muſt certainly cut them to the Quick.

Obſ. There's nothing will ſilence or convince thoſe Men, *Roger*, but the Hands of Juſtice, which will overtake them ſoon or late. The Libertys of *Europe*, the Security of our Revolution Settlement, and of the Proteſtant Succeſſion, will prove too hard a Match for them at laſt. The Faction has too much alarm'd our Confederates abroad, and the Friends of the Revolution and Proteſtant Succeſſion at home, to conceive any Hopes of carrying on their Deſigns without a vigorous Oppoſition. The Safety of *Europe* and of theſe Kingdoms is too much concerned in the *Hanover* Succeſſion, and the Barrier Treaty, for the Princes and States, whoſe Intereſt it is to ſupport them, to ſuffer them to be overwhelm'd by the peſtilent Breath or the Sound of the Ram's-Horns made uſe of by the *French* King and his Faction, tho conſecrated for that End by the Pope and our High Church Patriarchs. Nay, what's more to our Comfort, Heaven ſeems to have taken the Cauſe into its own Hand. Providence has ſo chaſtis'd the *French* King in his Arms and Iſſue, that he has liv'd to ſee his Babel of Univerſal Monarchy begin to tumble apace; aud whatever may be the Event of the threatning Diſeaſe that GOD hath ſmitten himſelf with, he has the uncomfortable Proſpect of leaving *France* and his illgotten Conqueſts in the Hands of an Infant, who cannot purſue his ambitious Plan. The Diſorders that have always happen'd in *France* during the Reign of a Minor, muſt in all probability break out with greater Violence on the Death of *Lewis* XIV. than ever they did upon any ſuch Occaſion before. Thoſe Princes of the Blood who think themſelves injur'd in their Pretenſions by this hateful Tyrant, have a fair Opportunity of endeavouring to do themſelves Juſtice at his Death. The many Thouſands of Proteſtants who have been barbarouſly and perfidiouſly drove out of the Kingdom, will be ready, no doubt, to do what's in their Power for recovering their Eſtates and their Liberty according to the Edict of *Nantes*. The many Thouſands of thoſe oppreſſed People who are forc'd at preſent to comply with what their Conſciences abhor, and to conceal themſelves the beſt they can, will certainly be ready to join them. The Crys of the Innocent Blood which that Tyrant has ſhed to ſatisfy his Rage againſt true Chriſtianity, and the Groans and Sighs of the Confeſſors aboard his Galleys, and in Dungeons and Convents, call aloud to Heaven for Revenge. The injur'd Princes and States of *Europe*, whoſe Countrys he has laid deſolate, and uſurp'd, ſeem prepar'd by Heaven to make juſt Repriſals upon him and his Country. And GOD in his Righteous Judgment threatens to give *France Children for their Princes, and Babes to Rule over them, as he did to Judah* when he had a mind to chaſtiſe that ſinful People. From all this, I think it very plain, *Roger*, that Heaven has declar'd it ſelf for the Common Cauſe of *Europe*, and gives a very loud Warning to thoſe who eſpouſe the Intereſt of that perjur'd Tyrant, to beware, leſt by partaking of his Sins they partake of his Plagues.

Countrym. It muſt be own'd that the Providences you mention ſeem to look that Way, Maſter; but the Faction ſhew by their Conduct that their Hearts are harden'd; and I make no doubt but you'll find that their Scribblers will give thoſe Things quite another Turn. From the calamitous Proſpect of the Affairs of *France* they'll take occaſion to renew their Outcrys, from the Danger we are in by the Power of the Houſe of *Auſtria*, if *Lewis* the XIVth be cut off, and *France* comes to be govern'd by a Minor.

Obſ. I am ſatisfy'd of that, *Roger*; but this Argument is grown ſo Threadbare, and they have labour'd it ſo much already, that all Men of Senſe ſee thro the Fallacy of it. The Confederates have the Power in their Hands to bring the Emperor to any reaſonable Security they can demand againſt ſuch a real or imaginary Danger. Beſides, theſe Frenchify'd Authors contradict one another: Some of them have told us, that the Houſe of *Auſtria* has already 200000 Men in Arms; and others laugh at the Emperor's Propoſals of bringing 100000 into the Field, as what he is not able to perform. So that according to the Nature of all falſe Evidence, one part of it diſagrees with another. But beſides the Obligations which the Emperor has already to the Confederates, and what further Ties they

may

may lay upon him; all the World knows that he has no Naval Power to joyn the Forces of his ſcatter'd Dominions, and 'tis plain to a Demonſtration, that *Spain* and its Territorys will be rather a Burthen than an Advantage to him, ſo long as he Lives. Nor is there any Proſpect that *Spain* and the Empire can ever be united in his Poſterity; but allowing they ſhou'd, the *Hanover* Succeſſion, and the *Barrier Treaty*, which ſome People take ſo much Pains to deſtroy, are as good Securitys as Man can propoſe againſt any ſuch Danger, if ever it ſhou'd happen.

Countrym. They are ſenſible enough of that, Maſter, tho' they have not the Honeſty to own it. But there's another Game they have to play, and that is, to raiſe an Inteſtine War, which if they can effect, as they bid fair to do, if Providence don't prevent it, they think the Confederates can do nothing without us, and ſo the Houſe of *Bourbon* ſhall continue poſſeſs'd of their Uſurpations, and according to the late Military Song of the Faction, their *Impoſtor King* ſhall enjoy what they call *his own*.

Obſ. I make no doubt but theſe are their Hopes, *Roger*. They have had that in View for many years: Yet tho' we don't deſerve it, we have reaſon to believe, that God who brought about the Revolution in ſo wonderful a manner, and has hitherto preſerv'd it againſt all Attempts by a Chain of Miracles, will ſtill continue to do ſo. The Cauſe is his own, and he will uſe ſuch Methods to ſupport it, as are conſiſtent with his Goodneſs, Wiſdom and Juſtice, tho' the Carcaſſes of a murmuring People may fall in the Wilderneſs. We may ſee by the preſent Rebukes of Providence upon the *French* King and his Abettors, that when that Tyrant thought himſelf ſure, and that his Mountain ſtood ſtrong, God has ſhaken it with his own Hand, as if he had a mind to ſhew the World, that ſo Exorbitant a Criminal, who had bid Defyance to Heaven, and made a Jeſt of all that he himſelf counts Sacred, had carry'd his Provocations too high to be puniſh'd only by Man, and therefore the Lord himſelf wou'd *have him in Deriſion, and break him like a Potter's Veſſel*.

Countrym. I think your Obſervations are very juſt, Maſter. That lofty Tyrant has, during his whole Reign, *ſet himſelf againſt the Lord and againſt his Anointed, to break their Bands aſunder, and caſt their Cords away from him.* Oaths, Treatys and Sacraments, have been the uſual Snares which *Lewis* XIV. has made uſe of to catch the unwary. His Craft did formerly proſper in his Hand, and by his Counterfeit Peace he has deſtroy'd many People. His Blaſphemys have been belch'd out againſt Heaven itſelf.; and therefore 'tis very remarkable, that God has humbled him ſo far already by his own Hand, as he did his Predeceſſors in Tyranny, *Pharaoh*, *Nebuchadnezzar*, *Antiochus Epiphanes*, *Herod* and others, and at laſt deſtroy'd them, becauſe they did not Repent upon the Checks and Warnings which Providence had given them. I wiſh from this Example, Maſter, That the *Kings and Judges of the Earth may be Inſtructed, and ſubmit their Thrones and Sceptres to our Saviour, leſt they periſh in his Wrath, for Uſurping a Power over the Bodys and Conſciences of Men, from which he came into the World to make them free.*

Obſ. The Faction will upbraid us, as canting Fellows, *Roger*; but we muſt not value that, *Wiſdom will be juſtify'd of her Children.* The Footſteps of Providence are too viſible in this whole Matter to paſs unobſerv'd: *And thoſe who deſpiſe its Voice, ſhall feel the weight of its Rod*, as the *French* King has already done by the loſs of three Dauphins in one Year, beſides other publick Rebukes.

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